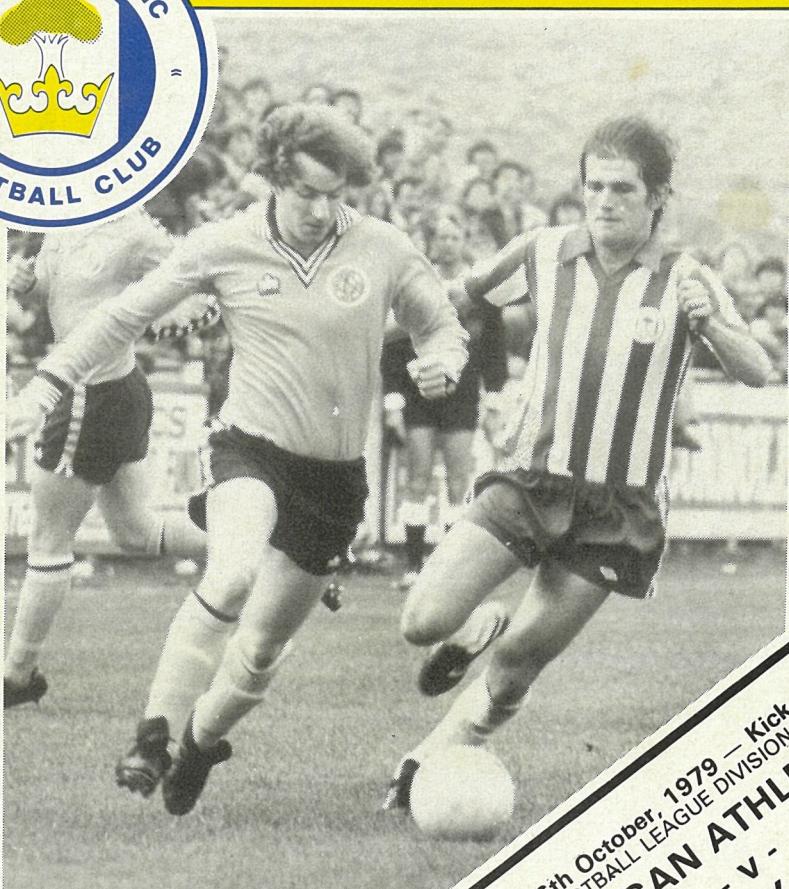


WIGAN ATHLETIC



Saturday, 6th October, 1979 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
WIGAN ATHLETIC — v —
TORQUAY UNITED

Official Programme

20p

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Club Directory

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TEAM MANAGER:
Mr. I.M. McNeill.

COMMERCIAL MANAGER:
Mr. J.T. Sudworth.

HON. MEDICAL OFFICERS:
Dr. G. Menon
Dr. S.K. Ahuja

Match Ball Donors

The Wigan Athletic Football Club wishes to thank all those who have donated match balls. Any individual or organisation wishing to join the scheme is asked to contact the Commercial Manager, Springfield Park, Wigan. (Telephone: Wigan 43067)

Our front page pic this issue shows, on the ball, Jeff Wright and his Bradford City opponent despatching possession. (Photo by courtesy of "Evening Post & Chronicle").

Personally Speaking

by Ian McNeill



Good afternoon all.
A WARM WELCOME to Mike Green and his West Country side. Last season we managed three points out of four, but I am sure Mike will be trying to remedy that this season.

Our fruitless journey
It was very sad to

have our game at Hartlepool called off when so many fans had made the trip. However, fog is such that one can never legislate for it, and I feel on this occasion that the referee had no alternative but to postpone the match. I suppose he could have waited a half hour or so but the night was very still, no wind, and it did not look as if any change would take place.

Colin Methven

I would like to welcome Colin to Springfield Park, for what I am sure will be a very happy stay. Initially Colin may find it difficult moving from a part-time situation to being a full-timer. As a part-timer, much energy is left for Saturday, and suddenly, when one has to train all week, sometimes nothing is left. It is only when the body becomes used to the full-time training that the player gets great benefit from it. It will also take the lad and his wife, who is anticipating a happy event, a little while to settle down. However, I am sure that, in the end, the warmth of the Wigan people's welcome will make them feel at home.

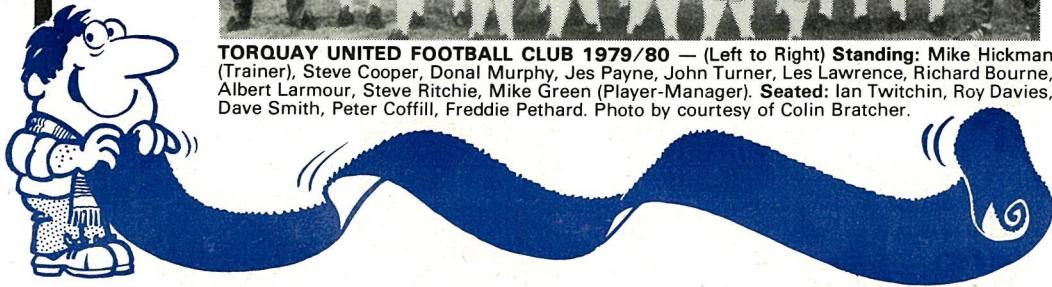
Enjoy today's match.

Ian McNeill.

WELCOME TO



TORQUAY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB 1979/80 — (Left to Right) **Standing:** Mike Hickman (Trainer), Steve Cooper, Donal Murphy, Jes Payne, John Turner, Les Lawrence, Richard Bourne, Albert Larmour, Steve Ritchie, Mike Green (Player-Manager). **Seated:** Ian Twitchin, Roy Davies, Dave Smith, Peter Coffill, Freddie Pethard. Photo by courtesy of Colin Bratcher.



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TORQUAY UNITED

ONE MEMORY which all Wigan Athletic Football Club supporters have of last year's game with Torquay United is the magnificently open game of soccer which was played out in front of an appreciative crowd. Although Wigan obtained a narrow victory, there were many palpitating hearts as the initiative flowed first one way and then the other. The return fixture at Plainmoor was equally exciting, with even the elements getting into the act to produce a setting worthy of a Hollywood spectacular. If today's game lives up to the standard set last year, we are all in for a treat.

Torquay, something of a soccer outpost, is a delightful resort, and it was not surprising that last year, the Wigan Athletic Football Club and its supporters, made their visit to the seaside a holiday weekend. The hospitality of the Torquay United Football Club, and the warm welcome given to our fans by the Hoteliers in the area, were in themselves high spots of our first year in League Football.

Although Torquay United have never risen beyond the Third Division, they have always been looked upon as an efficient club, run by a succession of very able Directors, ever mindful of their responsibility in producing attractive entertainment for the spectators. Of their previous

managers, Frank O'Farrell and Allan Brown are two names well-known to Wigan Athletic fans, while Mike Keen, their current manager, has already served notice of his intention to do it in style.

This year, like ourselves, Torquay United are looking to put together a string of consistent results to transform them from a comparatively comfortably placed mid-table side into serious promotion contenders. If Mike Keen can add the additional dimension of a tight defence to the attacking flair which was evident in his last year's side, the men from Plainmoor may prove themselves the dark horses in the race for promotion to Division Three.

For those interested in facts and figures, the record attendance at Plainmoor was for a Fourth Round F.A. Cup-tie, against Huddersfield Town on 29th January, 1955, when 21,908 spectators attended the game. Three times in 1949, 1955 and 1971, Torquay progressed to the Fourth Round of the F.A. Cup, while, as yet, in the Football League Cup, "The Gulls" have not ventured beyond the Third Round.

To all in the Torquay United contingent, whether directors, staff players or spectators, a warm Wigan welcome. Enjoy your visit to Lancashire and after an enjoyable game of football, we trust you will have a safe journey home.

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COMMERCIAL CHATTER

NOW THAT the dust has settled after the hectic start of a new season there is ample evidence that commercial managers are continuing to explore every avenue in their attempts to satisfy the appetites of their football clubs.

You will recall that, last week, we reported on Port Vale's initiative with regard to group sponsorship. This week we have received an invitation to attend a meeting at Coventry City (the mecca of enlightened commercial development) to discuss the drawing up of a mail order catalogue (etc.) to answer the needs of those supporters wishing to purchase souvenirs from clubs, not in their immediate locality.

Very few of our supporters will be aware that each week from our modest little office, we send out programmes and souvenirs direct not only to addresses in the U.K. but also overseas. For instance, we have a programme subscriber in Canada, and we have involved ourselves in

certain P.R. aspects of the job, sending programmes, badges and pennants as far away as Czechoslovakia, Poland, West Germany, Majorca and the United States. One can see the day coming, as our club's status rises above the current Fourth Division level, when it will be necessary to open shops in Wigan and District to serve local needs, and it will also be necessary to bring into being a mail order/P.R. department to cope with increasing demand from elsewhere for Wigan Athletic paraphernalia. From little acorns, great oak trees do indeed grow!

Our Treble Chance Lottery is now operating on a fortnightly basis, and, after a few early teething troubles, we hope to gradually increase its efficiency and step-up the revenue from this most valuable source of income. We are still recruiting agents and, if you can help, please call in at our office today and we will discuss the matter with you. While on the subject of

the lottery, we are pleased to report that Bill Brown is now back in harness again after his recent indisposition. Welcome back, Bill, you have been missed!!

We are pleased to note that today's match ball has been donated by Clark's Travel of 19 Wallgate, Wigan (telephone number Wigan 44119). Brian and Doreen Clark's original venture in coach-hire and travel began at their Little Lane, Goose Green office (telephone Wigan 42929), and such has been their success that they now also have business interests in the Haydock and St. Helens areas. Brian's two sons are both keen Latics' fans, and sell programmes on match days. Thank you, Brian, for the interest you and your family have shown in our club, and for your kind donation of the match ball.

Enjoy today's game.

Jack Sudworth,
Commercial Manager.

Income Tax Consultant, 70 Springfield Road, Wigan, Lancs., WN6 7BB
(see also our Business Consultants advertisement)

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Lancashire League Scene

by Fred Eyre

SERVE UP good entertaining football and the crowds will come. This has been proved at all levels. At Sunday morning matches, on park pitches where there are ten or around twelve games in progress, you will always see a crowd at the best one, whilst the others are watched by just a couple of loyal supporters.

The word seems to have spread around Wigan that our Reserve team play good, exciting soccer because the attendances are shooting up. We have always had a hard core of a couple of hundred appreciative spectators, but this season our crowds have far exceeded this and last week's 5 - 0 win over Rochdale was watched by a crowd of over 500, whilst last night's 2 - 0 victory over Bolton brought in a record 800 supporters.

The players are naturally thrilled by these attendances and it always gives them a big lift to know there is a decent crowd watching them perform.

When you consider that most Northern Premier League teams at the moment are not reaching this figure, nor some of the teams in the newly formed Alliance, it makes it ever more pleasing. In fact Crewe Alexandra's Fourth Division gates in recent weeks have only exceeded our Reserve gates by a few hundred people.

With the First Team attendances also being high, it really proves that the public of Wigan certainly support their FOOTBALL CLUB not just a successful First Team — a fact noted and appreciated by everyone at Springfield Park.

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Player Profile



Photograph by courtesy of The Wigan Reporter



Noel Ward (Defender)

NOEL WARD was born in Strabane, Northern Ireland and attended St. Colman's High School. Noel represented his school both at soccer and Gaelic football. As a schoolboy he played for the county team which won the All-Ireland Schools Championship. When Noel left school he served an apprenticeship as a fitter and played mostly Gaelic football for two years. After playing in a works' match Noel Ward went to Derry City on trial, and having signed as an amateur, he played centre half in the reserves. Noel made his debut in the first team at centre-forward and in a very short time he played in an Irish Cup Semi-Final, which his side won 1 - 0. Games v Wolves (then 3rd in Division 1) in the Texaco Cup, for the Irish Youth team v Scotland (scored in a 1 - 5 defeat), and an Irish Cup Final (lost 0 - 3) added to Noel's experience.

Derry City went defunct because of the troubles and Noel signed for Portadown as a semi-professional. He played there for less than one year, before being transferred to Aberdeen.

At Aberdeen, Noel twice played for the first team in his

second season with the club. At the end of that season he was delighted to go on tour with the team to Teheran, Bangkok, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia and Hong Kong.

During his third season at Aberdeen, Noel made the first team after Willie Young was transferred to Spurs, but lost his place when Ally McLeod arrived at Pittodrie. After playing out the season in goal for the reserves, Noel was given a free transfer and joined Wigan Athletic.

At Wigan, Noel was again to prove his versatility playing in goal, in the back four, in mid-field and as a striker. At all times his performances were an example to his team mates, and it was no surprise when he became club captain and eventually gained selection for the Northern Ireland squad.

It was a bitter blow for the Wigan Athletic Football Club when earlier this year Noel sustained a nasty fracture to his right leg, and a career which had started to blossom has been temporarily thrown out of gear. The big fellow, whose height, mobility and all-round ability, particularly at set-pieces, has been sorely missed. However, those of us at the club who are privileged to know him, are banking on his fighting spirit seeing him through his present trouble, and we look forward to the day when Noel will again trot out onto the park in Wigan's colours.

RESERVE RESULTS FOR YOUR RECORDS

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE DIVISION 1.

Monday, 1st October, 1979. Reserves 2 Bolton Wanderers 'A' 0
Wigan scorers Hart and Tony Quinn

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE DIVISION 2

Saturday, 29th September, 1979. 'A' Team 2 Tranmere Rovers 'B' 0
Wigan scorers: Mayer and Mike Quinn.

F.A. YOUTH CUP — SECOND QUALIFYING ROUND

Wednesday, 3rd October, 1979. Bury Youth 1 Athletic Youth 1.
Youth Team scorer: Smith.

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BRADFORD U

Photo by courtesy of "Evening Post & Chronicle"



ABOVE

Frank Corrigan's fierce shot beats the defensive wall, but the ball flashes over the bar.



TOP RIGHT

Dancing a strange pas-de-deux. Wigan's Peter Houghton and Bradford City's Cyril Podd.

BOTTOM RIGHT

Frank Corrigan blasts his shot at goal and a Bradford City defender takes half-evasive action.

Springfield Spotlight

UNDER SIEGE



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Down Memory Lane

by Harold Ashurst

IF TODAY's game is as entertaining as one which took place some forty-one years ago, on October 8th, 1938, there will be no complaints from the spectators.

Latics, in the Cheshire League at the time and occupying 13th position, entertained old rivals Northwich Victoria, illustrious opponents right through the years to the Northern Premier League days of two years ago. Northwich were in the top four of the League at the time, but Latics proved, as they did last week against Bradford, that League positions mean nothing when you come to Springfield Park.

Wigan won a tremendously entertaining match by 5 - 2 and no small part was played by a lad with just that name — Part. He was a young left winger, who had only been signed from Atherton Collieries just a couple of weeks before, and who was making his

debut for the first team. Part scored two goals, made another for centre forward Cansfield and impressed so much that the Wigan Observer wrote: "There were two thousand spectators who were delighted with Athletic's display. A large part of the victory was due to the brilliant performance of Part, a young left winger. Part, who showed resource, speed and excellent ball-control was more than a handful for the Northwich right full back and he credited himself with scoring two of Athletic's goals, in addition to giving the final pass which resulted in the centre forward scoring with a header. His centres from the wing were well-timed and placed and there is no doubt that his inclusion greatly strengthened the Wigan side."

The Wigan side was: Gill, Robinson, McLauchlan, Lowery, Whittaker, E. Bullivant, H. Hartill, Thomas, Cansfield, Parle and Part.

LATICS AWAY

Tuesday, 9th October, 1979 at Huddersfield.

Take M62 until Junction 23, then A640 or A62 into town centre and follow signs showing Leeds A62 into Leeds Road for Huddersfield Town F.C.

Saturday, 13th October, at Doncaster.

Take M62 eastwards until its junction with the A1. Join A1 eventually leaving by A638 into town centre of Doncaster. Follow the signs to Bawtry and in just over a mile at roundabout take third exit into Bawtry Road for Doncaster F.C.

Facts and Figures

Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold.
† Player substituted.

² Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.

* In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	Fixture	F	A	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug 11	Stockport FLC1	1	-2	6,004	R. Ward	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton ²	Brownbill	Purdie	Urquhart
Aug 15	STOCKPORT FLC1	0	-0	7,591	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Purdie	Moore
Aug 18	Darlington	2	-2	2,063	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan ¹	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Purdie ¹	Davids
Aug 22	HUDDERSFIELD	1	-2	6,927	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore ¹	Purdie	Brownbill
Aug 25	Stockport County	2	-1	3,837	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore ¹	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton ¹	Moore	Purdie	N. Ward
Sep 1	PORTRSMOUTH	1	-2	8,198	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N. Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore ¹	Purdie	Urquhart
Sep 8	Bournemouth	2	-1	4,390	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Hart	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie	Brownbill ²
Sep 15	YORK CITY	2	-5	5,990	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan ¹	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart ¹
Sep 19	HARTLEPOOL	2	-1	4,877	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton ²	Purdie
Sep 22	Hereford United	1	-2	3,891	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Purdie	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright ¹	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Urquhart
Sep 29	BRADFORD CITY	4	-1	8,008	Shyne	Gore ¹	Hinnigan ¹	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore ¹	Houghton ¹	Crompton
Oct 6	TORQUAY UNITED															
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town															
Oct 13	Doncaster Rovers															
Oct 20	LINCOLN CITY															
Oct 24	ROCHDALE															
Oct 27	Newport County															
Nov 3	DARLINGTON															
Nov 6	Rochdale															
Nov 9	Tranmere Rovers															
Nov 17	SCUNTHORPE															
Nov 24	F.A. Cup 1															
Dec 1	NORTHAMPTON															
Dec 8	Walsall															
Dec 15	F.A. Cup 2															
Dec 21	CREWE															
Dec 26	Peterborough															
Dec 29	STOCKPORT															
Jan 1	PORT VALE															
Jan 5	Halifax Town															
Jan 12	Portsmouth															
Jan 19	BOURNEMOUTH															
Jan 26	ALDERSHOT															
Feb 2	York City															
Feb 9	HEREFORD UNITED															
Feb 16	Bradford City															
Feb 23	DONCASTER															
Feb 29	Lincoln City															
Mar 8	NEWPORT COUNTY															
Mar 14	Torquay United															
Mar 22	TRANMERE															
Mar 29	Scunthorpe United															
Apr 4	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr 5	PETERBOROUGH															
Apr 7	Port Vale															
Apr 12	HALIFAX TOWN															
Apr 19	Northampton Town															
Apr 26	WALSALL															
May 3	Aldershot															

LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES Up to 31st December, 1979 Wigan Athletic Reserves

Oct.	8	Burnley 'A'	H
	13	Morecambe Res.	H
	20	Wrexham Res.	A
Nov.	3	Morecambe Res.	A
	10	Tranmere R. Res.	H
	17	Manchester U. 'A'	A
	24	Rochdale Res.	A
Dec.	1	Oldham Ath. Res.	A
	8	Oldham Ath. Res.	H
	21	Southport Res.	A
	26	Liverpool 'A'	H
	29	Macclesfield T. Res.	A
		Wigan Athletic 'A'	
Oct.	13	Manchester U. 'B'	A
	27	Oldham Ath. 'A'	A
Nov.	10	Preston N.E. 'A' (SC)	A
	17	Tranmere R. 'B'	H
Dec.	1	Bury 'A'	A
	8	Everton 'B' (SC)	H
	29	Blackburn R. 'A'	A

Leading Goal Scorers in competitive games:

Houghton 5, Moore 3, Brownbill 2, Gore 2, Hinnigan 2, Corrigan 1, Purdie 1, Urquhart 1, Wright 1.

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Fourth Division Focus

by Chris Gill



BELIEVE IT or not, after today's matches we are almost one quarter the way through the 1979-80 Football League fixture programme!!

Last Saturday, Crewe, the only side without a win in the Fourth Division, put matters right by beating Northampton 2-1 at Gresty Road. The man who put the "Railwaymen" on the road to glory was new signing Colin Chesters who opened the scoring.

The player who is currently setting the division alight with his goalscoring form is Peterborough's close season signing from Kettering, Billy Kellock. Billy netted his ninth goal of the season against Hereford United last Saturday.

Stockport County continue to clock up the bookings — their total before last weekend's game stood at sixteen. On the brighter side Edgeley Park boss Mike Summerbee has signed Terry Park and Ken Fogarty on loan from America.

Rochdale boss Doug Collins is beginning to re-shape his side, and his latest acquisition is a striker from Gateshead by the name of Topping. Certainly Doug

needs some more power in a forward line that has netted only six goals in ten outings.

Still with Rochdale, their former striker Phil Ashworth, who also played for Southport and Workington, has been snapped up by Portsmouth boss Frankie Burrows, on a 'free'.

When it comes to scoring goals the Fourth Division is tops. Portsmouth are knocking them in left, right and centre. Last Saturday they took their tally to 27, with five against York, to give an average of three a game — well on target for 100 goals plus!!

The only unbeaten side in the Fourth Division, prior to the mid-week fixtures, is Walsall who at the moment boast the best record of the four sides relegated from the Third Division at the end of the 1978-1979 season.

Halifax have made their best start to a season for many a year, but not everything is rosy down at the Shay. Bookings are into double figures while attendances barely creep above the 2,000 mark!!

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Inside Information

by I. Spy

WE ARE pleased to report that Wigan Athletic's own bionic man, physiotherapist, Duncan Colquhoun, is back in circulation again after a second visit to a local hospital for a minor operation. Although Dunc might have been delighted to have been rebuilt bigger, faster and stronger, he is realistic enough and thankful enough to be feeling in good health and good spirits. There is no truth in the rumour set about by the players that he is due to star in "Mission Impossible".

Theories are flying about as to why the game at Hartlepool was stricken with a fog blight, when other neighbouring venues were more fortunate. The most unlikely explanation which has been put forward is that of divine intervention!!

Mrs. Margaret Muir (please refer to previous reports) managed to recruit as chauffeur to Hartlepool, the Reverend Dennis Hall, Vicar of St. Stephen's Whalley, but we cannot accept the theory that, for the good lady's effrontery in employing a man of the cloth to avoid further transport problems, punishment was inflicted on all Wigan fans making the long trek to the North-East.

The latest solution put forward to Margaret's recurring problem is that she should travel, by car, in convoy. We would be most grateful if any supporter who might be fortunate enough to possess an armoured car would telephone the club, using the reference "Mayday! Mayday!" and state whether this offer of assistance is for one game or for the remainder of the season.

HELLO, again! and welcome to what promises to be another good afternoon of football.

This week we have received news from Radio Manchester that, in the Sportsman's Quiz which is organised by the radio station, we have been drawn away in the first round of the competition, and oppose Manchester City Supporters' Club at their headquarters at Maine Road.

This "knowledge contest" is on Monday night, October 15th at 7.30 p.m. I understand that this year's competition is being staged at the supporters clubs' headquarters, as per the draw for the different rounds, so, who knows, a victory on 15th October could give us a "home draw" in the next round.

There are a total of sixteen teams entered for the quiz and this list includes such well-known names as Wigan Rugby League Club and Lancashire County Cricket Club. To Messrs. Michael Moss, Tom Bracken and Tony Harrison who are carrying our colours to Maine Road, we wish the very best of luck and may you get all your answers right.

Any Latics' supporters who could make the journey on that night to give our team their support, would be most welcome. During the past few days I have had some enquiries as to whether we would be prepared to form a "Junior Latics Supporters Association". Personally, I think the idea has a great potential and would welcome further enquiries and confirmation that we would get the

Supporters Club News



support.

We may have a Supporters' General Meeting scheduled for mid-November, and, if so, I would welcome the prospect of meeting members who have joined the club since the start of the season.

Meanwhile, on the "what's happening next" front, don't forget Sunday, 14th October and the visit of "Winston", plus the added attraction of Miss Audrey Jones. On Monday, 15th October, we are due to welcome "Sounds 18" — The Big Band Show.

From 'The Latics' (the friendly club),
Sincerely, Peter Woods.



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A last word from the chairman . . .

MAY I on behalf of the Wigan Athletic Football Club welcome the Chairman, Directors, players and supporters of the Torquay United Football Club to Springfield Park. Last year the games between our two sides were notable for their open and attractive football. I trust that today's game will give equal pleasure to those spectators present at the game.

While I have been away three particularly pleasing events connected with our club have occurred. Firstly, I was delighted to hear the news of our two successive home victories against Hartlepool United and Bradford City. Now that we have shown our own supporters how well we can play, I am sure we will go from strength to strength.

Secondly, it was most gratifying to hear of the support which is currently being given to our second team, and one would like to think that we could develop in Wigan a similar attitude to that which prevails in the big cities. When it is not possible to travel to support their first team, city supporters often attend reserve team games in large numbers.

The third item, and by no means the least important, is the continuing success story of our Youth XI. Last Wednesday evening, at Bury, our youngsters obtained a creditable draw and it is hoped that for the replay, next Wednesday, we will have a bumper attendance to see our team through to the First Round Proper.

Delighted to be back home again and looking forward to a wonderful game of football.

Yours sincerely,



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Teams

Wigan Athletic

(Royal Blue
& White Stripes)

Chris Shyne	1	John Turner
Tommy Gore	2	Ian Twitchin
Joe Hinnigan	3	Steve Ritchie
George Urquhart	4	Jim Hagan
Neil Davids	5	Richard Bourne
Dave Fretwell	6	Tommy Sermannni
Frank Corrigan	7	Roy Davies
Jeff Wright	8	Les Lawrence
Derek Brownbill	9	Steve Cooper
Micky Moore	10	Dave Smith
Peter Houghton	11	Donal Murphy
Alan Crompton	12	Peter Coffill

Torquay United

(Yellow)

Officials

Referee:

Mr. Neville J. Ashley
(Nantwich)
Commenced refereeing in 1964 in the Crewe and District League, and, eventually graduated to the Football League Full List in 1974. Has officiated in several important European F.A., English F.A., and Football League games.

Linesmen:

Mr. D.B. Allison
(Lancaster)
Yellow Flag
Mr. F. Roberts
(Prestatyn)

Here next...

Wednesday, 10th October, 1979. Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC YOUTH v BURY YOUTH
Second Qualifying Round Replay — F.A. Youth Cup